



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT of RESOURCES and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION of FORESTS and LANDS

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September 6, 2002

Meredith Hatfield
Public Policy Director
Governor's Office of Energy
57 Regional Dr. Suite 3
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Meredith:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the New Hampshire Energy Plan. I will attempt to be brief, as I know you and many of the folks working on the plan are very familiar with these issues.

First, wood energy provides a unique opportunity for New Hampshire to respond to one of the most essential ingredients to good forest stewardship – a market for low-grade wood - while maintaining a renewable source of energy in the mix of energy sources. DRED has done much work in the area of markets for low-grade wood over the last several years, as you are aware. If you need additional copies of the reports or additional presentations, please let me know.

Secondly, reduction in energy costs remain one of the most pressing issues identified by forest products manufacturing facilities (and manufacturing in general.) Strategies that would help our manufacturing industries compete with other parts of the country (and world) where energy costs are much less will be needed to ensure the ongoing success of these companies.

Thirdly, as we explore energy strategies I would urge you to consider the full economic, social and environmental costs of different forms of energy production and conservation. I believe that the value of trees and forests, whether shading homes or boiling steam, would be more fully understood if all of the costs were taken into account.

We look forward to participating in the development of the Plan and please let me know when there are specific ways in which we could help.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Philip A. Bryce
Director

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Forest Management

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